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MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

March 17,1928.

Hon. J. C. Collier,
Barnesville, Ga.
My dear Senator:-

Yours 3rd received. My illness has prevented an earlier reply.

I express ,cost prepaid, my book"The Virginia Cousins." As you know it is out of print, and I would not lose it for anything. You can retain it as long as you wish,and then return it to me by express at my expense. The book was compiled by Dr.G.Brown Goode, who was a Professor in the Smithsonian Institute at Washington. He was a very nice gentleman,and seemed to be efficient and thorough in all that he undertook,but with my casual reading of it,I find some mistakes. For instance on p.50-A he mentions Rev.Mr.Collier,who about 1703 was possibly the propositus of the Virginia Colliers, and a few lines below he mentioned John Collier as the propositus of the Va.family. It is easy to trace the names to England of the Colliers,but I have not yet found where the name originated. On the last paragraph of p.50,under 1st Generation,John Collier,of Little York,Va.was born in 1670-1685. He was a native of England or the son of an Englishman. You will observe on p.50,in fine print at the lower part, the name of Ralph Collier,a Frenchman,came to England the last years of Henry VI,sojourned at Darliston. Evidently he left France to go to England about the time of the outrage by England in burning the Maid of Orleans,or Joan of Arc. I cannot understand why he left France at that time. I flatter myself that no one of our blood would have left France, a country saved by the Maid of Orleans, to go to England , a country that burned her on the stake . On both sides of my family,I am English ,but as between France and England,I am a Frenchman,for it is to France that we are largely indebted for the greatest country and the best people the sun shines on. France aided us with men and money,and gave its blood for American Independence,and aided us in our struggle against our mother country. I can never forget this, and though living on borrowed time, when the world war came I offered myself to raise 5,000 men to be ready on the firing line within six months or sooner,after our troops were called. The burning of Joan of Arc is a deep blemish or blot upon the history of England.

Ralph Collier mentioned may have been the father or grand-father of Sir George Collier,the British Admiral,born 1733-or 38,and died in 1795. Jeremy Collier,an English theologian ,was born about 1650 and died in 1726. John Payne Collier,English antiquarian,author and Shakesperian critic was born about 1789,died in 1883. Colyer,Robert,English clergyman and author in America,was born 1723 and died in 1812. I do not find these dates in the book,but in the latest Webster's Dictionary. There are several errors and the truth can only be reached by comparing the names,date of birth and dates of their death, which you and experts in this line can quickly detect.

I was born in Tenn.Feb.12,1846. My father was Thomas Barksdale Collier born in Mecklenberg Co.,Va., Mar.21,1803,died in Haywood Co.,Tenn.,July9, 1854,married Catherine Page Nelson, daughter of Norborne Thomas Nelson and Lucy Nelson Nelson of Mecklenberg Co. in 1825. She died Oct.6,1863, their children are mentioned on p.276. On page 277 appears the picture of my mother. From this picture you would think a large coarse woman,when in fact she never weighed more than 115,and never wore a shoe larger than a 1s. She had the prettiest hand and foot I ever saw. The picture was taken from an old daguerreotype. My picture appears on p.405,and was taken in person in New York. My best friends would not know it to-day. On page 407 appears the picture of my wife,taken in New York. My paternal grandfather was Capt.Dabney Collier,a

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soldier in the wars of 1812. My great-grand-father was Capt.Thomas Collier,and my great-grand-father was John Collier.

I will not tire you,but send the book which you may read for yourself.

On p.50-C on par.11,you will find Capt.Thomas Collier married Miss Dabney of Hanover Co. ,and had children,Benjamin of Ga. ,Robert of Barnesville,Ga. He married Martha Booker. From this you will be able to trace your family. The study of one's ancestry is interesting,particularly to one who is worth of a noble ancestry. ~~After you have studied this book~~ I could study this book for hours at a time,but at the end would be as uncertain as I would be of the result of a difficult law suit. M

My wife,daughter and son and partner,Thomas Barksdale spent several years in England and abroad. They found the statute to Lord Nelson ,who by England is thought to be the greatest soldier of the world,but at that time I did not have my Collier book.

Prof .G.Browne Good was intensely a Good. You will find them in every section of our country and all splendid people,being much more of a Good than he was a Collier,he devoted most of his time and talent to the Good name. As you are a Collier, our blood lines running from the same source,I hope you will elaborate as far as time and space will allow on the Colliers.

You speak of being in Memphis and looking for some lawyers by my name. My firm is the only one of that name here until within the last year,Mr.William H.Collier came here and is now practicing law.

Some months ago, just before you were leaving your home, I sent you a letter from a lady whose name I cannot now recall,asking some information of Capt.Miles Collier . I knew one Capt.Miles Collier who came from Ga.to this city. He was the father of Mr.Barron Collier,a prominent capitalist of N.Y. and Florida, but the one she enquired of antedated Capt.Collier that I knew. I wish you would write such information on that letter as you can give and return it to me. I hope this book may be of some interest, pleasure and service to you. If I can be of any further service,command me.

I am dictating this from a sick bed and I hope you will pardon any errors or omissions in it.

With best wishes,I am sincerely yours,

Very sincerely yours,

Wm A Collier